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SERIAL NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
077715,439	06/14/91	TADEPALLI A	38942-DIV

EXAMINER
JORDAN, K

DONALD BROWN
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BOSTON, MA 02109

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
125	✓

DATE MAILED: 08/01/91

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application.
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

☒ This application has been examined. ☐ Responsive to communication filed on _____. ☐ This action is made final.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), _____ days from the date of this letter.
Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. 35 U.S.C. 133

Part I THE FOLLOWING ATTACHMENT(S) ARE PART OF THIS ACTION:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited by Examiner, PTO-892. | 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice re Patent Drawing, PTO-948. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Art Cited by Applicant, PTO-1449. | 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application, Form PTO-152 |
| 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Information on How to Effect Drawing Changes, PTO-1474. | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |

Part II SUMMARY OF ACTION

1. ☒ Claims 1, 3, 5, 10-11 are pending in the application.

Of the above, claims _____ are withdrawn from consideration.

2. ☐ Claims _____ have been cancelled.

3. ☐ Claims _____ are allowed.

4. ☒ Claims 1, 3, 5, 10-11 are rejected.

5. ☐ Claims _____ are objected to.

6. ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

7. ☐ This application has been filed with informal drawings under 37 C.F.R. 1.85 which are acceptable for examination purposes.

8. ☐ Formal drawings are required in response to this Office action.

9. ☐ The corrected or substitute drawings have been received on _____. Under 37 C.F.R. 1.84 these drawings are ☐ acceptable; ☐ not acceptable (see explanation or Notice re Patent Drawing, PTO-948).

10. ☐ The proposed additional or substitute sheet(s) of drawings, filed on _____, has (have) been ☐ approved by the examiner; ☐ disapproved by the examiner (see explanation).

11. ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed _____, has been ☐ approved; ☐ disapproved (see explanation).

12. ☒ Acknowledgement is made of the claim for priority under U.S.C. 119. The certified copy has ☐ been received ☐ not been received
☒ been filed in parent application, serial no. 07/367 090; filed on 6/16/89.

13. ☐ Since this application appears to be in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

14. ☐ Other

EXAMINER'S ACTION

Serial No. 07/715,439

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Art Unit 125

Claims 1, 3, 5 and 10-11 are presented for examination.

The amendments received on June 14, 1991 have been entered.

Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119. The certified copy has been filed in parent application, Serial No. 07/367,090, filed on June 16, 1989.

The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claims 1, 3, 5, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1 is rendered indefinite by failing to recite a host to which the compound is to be administered. The remaining claims are indefinite to the extent that they fail to incorporate the above terminology therein.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. § 103 which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Art Unit 125

Subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under subsection (f) or (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103, the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of potential 35 U.S.C. § 102(f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Claims 1, 3, 5, 10-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Aristoff et al. (R) and Rubin et al. (S). The claims appear to be drawn to a method of treating hypertension by administering benzidene prostaglandins. Aristoff et al. demonstrates the activity of the claimed benzidene prostaglandins as blood pressure depressors. Rubin et al. teaches the use of prostacyclin to treat patients with pulmonary hypertension. The claimed subject matter differs from the disclosure of the primary references in claiming specific benzidene prostaglandins for treating pulmonary hypertension. The claimed subject matter would have been obvious given that benzidene prostaglandins are known blood pressure depressors. Absent evidence to the contrary the benzidene prostaglandins of Rubin are deemed to be equivalent to the benzidene prostaglandins of Rubin are deemed to be equivalent to the benzidene

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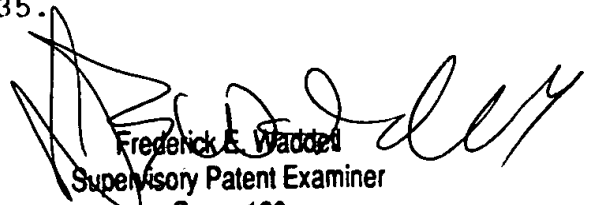
Art Unit 125

prostaglandins of the claimed invention in their ability to lower pulmonary blood pressure. The claimed subject matter fails to patentably distinguish over the state of the art as represented by the cited references. Therefore the claims are properly rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103.

No claims are allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kimberly Jordan whose telephone number is (703) 308-4611.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1235.


Frederick E. Waddell
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group 120

Jordan:st
July 29, 1991 